(c) The MLAT provides for cooperation between the two Governments in providing mutual legal assistance in criminal matters including investigations, enquiries, trials or other proceedings relating to an offence created by the Legislature of the Contracting State.

(d) The new Extradition Treaty and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Treaty will come into effect after their signature by the two Governments.

Inclusion of India in UNNCRE Programme

2458. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's name has not been included in the participating countries list for the United Nations National Competitive Recruitment Examination Programme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government have taken/proposed to be taken to enable Indian Qualified Youth to attend the United Nations National Competitive Recruitment Examination?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) National Competitive Recruitment Examination (NCRE) are organized by the United Nations (UN) to recruit junior professionals as a matter of priority from countries that are unrepresented and under-represented among the staff of the UN Secretariat. In addition, the exam is also conducted for nationals of those countries that are in danger of becoming under-represented or unrepresented. India is amongst the 21 Member States of the UN that are over-represented in the UN Secretariat and therefore the NCRE is not conducted for India.

Pows in jails of Pakistan and Bangladesh

2459. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of prisoners languishing in jails of Pakistan, Bangladesh and China;